

Message Text

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TREAS - MR. WIDMAN/MR. NIEHUSS

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TO AMEMBASSY BERN PRIORITY

INFO USMISSION OECD PARIS PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 243344

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EGEN, OECD

SUBJECT: OCTOBER 21-22 XCSS MEETING

REF: BERN 4241

1. PLEASE DELIVER FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM UNDER SECRETARY
ROBINSON TO AMBASSADOR JOLLES.

2. DEAR MR. AMBASSADOR:

THANK YOU FOR YOUR RECENT LETTER CONCERNING THE FORTH-
COMING MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE IN SPECIAL SESSION
THIS WILL BE A PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT MEETING OF OUR COMMIT-
TEE AND I WELCOME YOUR VIEWS ON THE TASKS THAT LIE BEFORE
US.

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I AM IN GENERAL AGREEMENT WITH YOUR PROPOSALS AS

REGARDS ISSUES RELATED TO THE LAUNCHING OF THE FOUR COMMISSION DIALOGUE. THE OECD WILL BE THE LOCUS OF INDISPENSABLE INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRY COORDINATION IN THE DIALOGUE, AND THE XCSS WILL BE A PRINCIPAL INSTRUMENT OF THAT COORDINATION.

WE BELIEVE THAT COORDINATION SHOULD BE APPROACHED PRAGMATICALLY SO AS TO AVOID ANY POSSIBILITY OF A STERILE DEBATE OVER THE JURISDICTIONS OF VARIOUS OECD BODIES

ENGAGED IN PREPARATION OF THE DIALOGUE. THUS, WHILE THE XCSS SHOULD TAKE COGNIZANCE OF THE WORK UNDERWAY IN THE IEA AND ON FINANCIAL QUESTIONS IN BOTH THE IEA AND THE TEMPORARY WORKING PARTY OF THE ECONOMIC POLICY COMMITTEE, IT SHOULD NOT DO MORE AT THIS STAGE.

I WELCOME YOUR SUGGESTION THAT HEADS OF DELEGATION DISCUSS THE AIMS AND INTERRELATIONSHIPS OF THE FOUR COMMISSIONS. THE INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES HAVE BEEN PUT ON NOTICE THAT THE OPEC AND DEVELOPING COUNTRY PARTICIPANTS VIEW THE DIALOGUE AS A SINGLE NEGOTIATION AND WANT CLOSE LINKS BETWEEN THE COMMISSIONS AND A SUBSTANTIVE ROLE FOR THE GROUP OF 27. AN EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON THE IMPLICATIONS OF "INTERRELATIONSHIP" WOULD BE USEFUL IN CLARIFYING THE VIEWS OF OECD COUNTRIES ON THIS QUESTION.

I HOPE OUR OFFICIAL MEETING WILL ALSO CONSIDER THE TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE RAW MATERIALS AND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSIONS IN SOME DETAIL. FOR THESE COMMISSIONS, THE COMMITTEE SHOULD IDENTIFY THE ISSUES ON WHICH

INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRY POSITIONS ARE NEEDED AND INSTRUCT THE HIGH-LEVEL GROUPS ON NORTH-SOUTH RELATIONS AND COMMODITIES TO PREPARE THEM. THE HIGH-LEVEL GROUP ON NORTH-SOUTH RELATIONS SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED TO TAKE A BROAD VIEW OF ITS MANDATE IN ORDER TO PREPARE FOR THE RANGE OF ISSUES LIKELY TO BE RAISED IN THE DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION.

IN CONSIDERING THE TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE DEVELOPMENT AND POSSIBLY THE FINANCIAL COMMISSION, ONE PARTICU-
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LARLY IMPORTANT ISSUE STANDS OUT. I REFER TO THE PROBLEM OF LDC INTERNATIONAL PAYMENTS IMBALANCES. AS YOU KNOW, BALANCE OF PAYMENTS DEFICITS ARE MOUNTING IN THE NON-OIL DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AT AN UNSUSTAINABLE RATE, WHILE LARGE SURPLUSES ACCUMULATE IN SEVERAL OPEC COUNTRIES AND A FEW MAJOR OECD COUNTRIES AS WELL. THIS DEVELOPMENT WILL EXERT A MAJOR POLITICAL INFLUENCE ON THE DIALOGUE. IT WOULD BE USEFUL, IN OUR VIEW, FOR MEMBERS OF THE XCSS

TO EXCHANGE VIEWS ON HOW, IN THE CONTEXT OF THE DIALOGUE,
WE MAY BEST HANDLE THIS ISSUE.

ALTHOUGH COORDINATION OF THE DIALOGUE AND RELATED
MATTERS WILL BE A PRINCIPAL FOCUS OF OUR ATTENTION WHEN
WE MEET, WE BELIEVE THE COMMITTEE SHOULD ALSO CONSIDER
THE BROADER QUESTION OF NORTH-SOUTH RELATIONS. IF YOU
AGREE, I SUGGEST THAT WE PLAN TO CONSIDER THE RANGE OF
ACTIONS THAT CAN BE TAKEN TO MAINTAIN THE MOMENTUM
ACHIEVED AT THE 27TH SPECIAL SESSION.

FINALLY, OUR MEETING WILL BE AN OPPORTUNITY TO
ADVANCE, THROUGH INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS AMONG HEADS OF
DELEGATION, THE CONSENSUS ON THE SELECTION OF ADDITIONAL
INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRY PARTICIPANTS IN THE DIALOGUE.

IF YOU WILL BE IN PARIS AT THE TIME OF THE PREPARA-
TORY MEEIING, WE COULD HAVE A MORE DETAILED DISCUSSION
OF THE PROSPECTS FOR THE FORTHCOMING MEETING.

WITH BEST PERSONAL WISHES. CHARLES ROBINSON

KISSINGER

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